

## NEWS.

about Connecticut Women

Connecticut General Assembly

Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

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## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007

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## MAKING WOMEN VISIBLE DAY 2007!

Hartford--The state legislature's Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW), in partnership with the Girl Scouts, the YWCA of the Hartford Region, Aspira, Southern CT State University and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy today presented the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Making Women Visible Day. The theme, Girls and *Leadership* was celebrated by girls from all over the state. They came from Hartford, East Hampton, Marlborough, Columbia, West Hartford, Prospect, Meriden, Bristol, Windsor, Southington, Thompson, Brookfield, Portland, Bristol, Terryville, Waterbury, Wallingford, Naugatuck, Seymour, Woodbridge, New Haven, Simsbury, East Hampton, Pawcatuck and others. Girl Scouts traded in their green for red today by wearing red sashes that said, "This is what a leader looks like".

After a kick off with state leaders, morning presentations sponsored by the PCSW included the presentation to winners of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade essay contest by the PCSW's Young Women's Leadership Program (YWLP), What would it be like to have a women President of the United States?; release of a poll of teen boys and girls conducted in Connecticut (see separate press releases on these issues) and a panel discussion for adults on Leadership and Mentoring. The YWLP and results of the teen poll are highlighted in displays on the walls in the Legislative Office Building through the end of this month.

Workshops were presented by the Girl Scouts and moderated by many state and local leaders. The workshop, *Women in Action* featured leaders who devote their energies and careers to helping other women live better lives. Veteran's Affairs Commissioner Linda Schwartz, PCSW Executive Director Teresa C. Younger, Southern CT State University President Cheryl Norton and Second Class Coast Guard Cadet Christine Torres are a few of the women participating on this panel.

*Girl Grantmaker*, presented by Coast Guard Cadets gave an imaginary \$45,000 to give away to international women's organizations. It's more than just a job allowed girls to explore job opportunities in the non profit sector. Some panelists included Tina James of the Connecticut Sun Basketball organization, Maribel Sanchez of the Talent Search Program at the University of Connecticut, and Ann Phelan from the Hospital of Central Connecticut.

It's All in How You Logo It asks girls to research the work done by other organizations in other countries which help women and children develop a logo and mini public relations campaign. Steering committee members of the PCSW's Young Women's Leadership Campaign led this workshop.

The day also included informational tables sponsored by the CT Women's Health Campaign in the concourse of the Legislative Office building.

For copies of reports and publications released today, visit the PCSW website at www.cga.ct.gov/pcsw.

The PCSW was established by the CT General Assembly in 1973. The Commission studies all matters concerning women, informs leaders about the nature and scope of discrimination, serves as a liaison between government and private interest groups concerned with services for women, promotes consideration of women for governmental positions and works with state agencies to access programs and practices as they affect women.